UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE

DONALD E. MORISKY,

Plaintiff,

v.

MMAS RESEARCH LLC, et al.,

Defendants.

No. 2:21-CV-1301-RSM-DWC

ORDER ADOPTING REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

The Court, having reviewed the Report and Recommendation of Magistrate Judge David W. Christel, objections to the Report and Recommendation¹, and the remaining record, does hereby find and ORDER:

- (1) The Court adopts the Report and Recommendation.
- (2) Plaintiff's Renewed Motion for Sanctions (Dkt. 233) is granted-in-part as follows:

The Court imposes the following sanctions: Defendants' counterclaims are dismissed with prejudice and Defendants are limited in the defenses presented at trial; the destroyed ESI (the license and settlement agreements) are presumed to be unfavorable to Defendants and an adverse jury instruction will be provided to the jury that the destroyed agreements were unfavorable to Defendants; and, at trial, adverse jury instructions will be provided so that any lack of proof should be inferred favorably to Plaintiff based on Defendants' failure to produce discovery.

(4) Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration, Dkt. #256, filed within Defendants' objections and on the same day as the noting date for the instant Report and Recommendation, thus before any final decision or order, is DENIED as premature and improper.

¹ The Court notes that Defendants' objections, Dkt. #256, were filed beyond the due date of September 3, 2024. ORDER ADOPTING REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION- 1

- (3) Plaintiff may move for the Court to impose costs and fees for bringing the motion for sanctions.
- (4) This case will proceed immediately to trial.
- (5) The Clerk of Court is directed to terminate the referral to U.S. Magistrate Judge Christel.
- (6) The Clerk is directed to send copies of this Order to Plaintiff, counsel for Defendants, and to the Hon. David W. Christel.

DATED this 10th day of September, 2024.

RICARDO S. MARTINEZ

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE